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7PM-REAGAN-SPIES; BJT; 650

7REAGAN VISITS CIA TO SIGN SPY BILL

7EDS: REAGAN SCHEDULED TO SPEAK AT 11 A.M. EDT; TOP PLANNED

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WASHINGTON (AP) - PRESIDENT REAGAN IS TAKING HIS FIRST TRIP TO CIA HEADQUARTERS TO SIGN INTO LAW A CONTROVERSIAL BILL MAKING IT A CRIME TO DISCLOSE NAMES OF AMERICAN SPIES; EVEN IF THE INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN PUBLIC RECORDS.

THE PRESIDENT WAS GOING TO THE CIA IN NEARBY LANGLEY, VA., TODAY TO SIGN THE LEGISLATION AND DELIVER A SPEECH ON THE TOPIC. HE ALSO SCHEDULED A SECRET TOUR OF THE HEAVILY GUARDED COMPLEX. THE BILL, FORMALLY CALLED THE INTELLIGENCE IDENTITIES PROTECTION ACT, WAS PASSED BY BOTH THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE BY OVERWHELMING MARGINS EARLIER THIS MONTH.

IT PROVIDES PRISON TERMS OF UP TO 10 YEARS AND FINES OF \$50,000 FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO EXPOSE THE IDENTITIES OF COVERT U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENTS LIVING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

THOSE OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING REPORTERS AND SCHOLARS, COULD BE IMPRISONED UP TO FOUR YEARS AND FINED \$15,000 FOR REVEALING NAMES OF SPIES IF THERE WAS REASON TO BELIEVE SUCH ACTIONS WOULD DISRUPT AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS.

THE BILL WOULD, FOR THE FIRST TIME, MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO BE PROSECUTED FOR DISSEMINATING PUBLICLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION.

THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES ORGANIZATION AND OTHER GROUPS HAVE VOWED TO CHALLENGE THE MEASURE IN COURT ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT VIOLATES THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

JERRY BERMAN, LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL FOR THE ACLU, SAID TUESDAY HIS ORGANIZATION WOULD FILE A LAWSUIT "WHEN AN APPROPRIATE CASE ARISES." HE ADDED: "WE ARE URGING PRESS AND JOURNALISTS TO FOLLOW THE FIRST AMENDMENT AND NOT THIS BILL. AND IF THEY'RE THREATENED WITH PROSECUTION OR INDICTED UNDER THIS BILL, WE ARE AVAILABLE TO CHALLENGE IT."

MINDFUL OF CRITICS' CONTENTIONS THAT THE BILL IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL, THE HOUSE AND SENATE NEGOTIATORS WHO WORKED OUT THE FINAL MEASURE INCLUDED A REPORT SAYING LEGITIMATE JOURNALISTIC INVESTIGATION AND CRITICISM OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE WOULD NOT BE DISCOURAGED.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE BILL WAS AIMED AT "GRATUITOUS LISTING OF AGENTS' NAMES," WHICH GOES "FAR BEYOND INFORMATION THAT MIGHT